PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

BURGER 2

EXAMINER: Laura Edwards

SERIAL NO:

10/022,092

GROUP:

1734

FILED:

December 17, 2001 13

TITLE:

PROCESS AND APPARATUS FOR SHAPING AND PROCESSING..

ATT: BOX FEE AMENDMENT Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 23, 2004, with the response due February 23, 2004 and being extended one month to March 23, 2004 Applicant respectfully responds as follows:

The Patent Examiner has required a restriction to one of the following inventions:

Group 1: Claims 1424 drawn to the process

Group 2: Claims 25-38 drawn to the apparatus

The Applicant respectfully selects, without traverse, the invention of Group 1 as set forth in claims 1-24, for further prosecution.

Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional patent application for the non-elected invention.

For all of these reasons, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. \$121 be withdrawn and that an action on the merits of all the claims be rendered.

Respectfully submitted, Burger-2

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1 hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to Examiner Edwards at Group 1734 at (703) 872-9310 on March 19, 2004